

WOMAN'S WORLD.

SHOULD THE WIVES OF CABINET MINISTERS HAVE CLERKS?

Wasp Waits No Longer Admired—An Invasion of Privacy—Women in Kitchen—Lockers—Life Insurance For Women.

The Crinoline Specter.

An important item of expense not allowed for in cabinet salaries is that providing for private secretaries for the president's wife and the ladies of the cabinet. At first reading the public would denounce such a proposition as altogether unnecessary, but to those who have knowledge of the exigencies of the case it will seem not only humane, but in the highest degree necessary. The duties devolving upon the wives of the officials named are never ending.

The position of a president's or cabinet minister's wife is by no means a sinecure. That such unending calls upon their time and social endurance of the mistress of the White House can prove too much of a strain for even a strong woman is attested by the severe tax upon Mrs. Harrison, whose willing heart and hands never allowed her, while strength lasted, to refuse an interview or any request which she could conscientiously grant.

In addition to the incessant demands to see the president's wife, which pour in with every delivery of White House mails, there are requests for autographs and replies to personal letters and notes that would alone require the time of one clerk, while the thousands and one extra things that daily crop up in addition to the regular official routine would more than furnish employment to a second one, yet none is allowed on the bill of expenses, and the president's wife who will have the hardihood to defy public opinion by demanding even one secretary will not find her pathway strewn with roses.

In the case of a cabinet minister's wife the duties are almost as heavy, since the fewer requests for interviews are effect in the household task of going over the cards each week, arranging to have her own kept in return and keeping her ever increasing visiting list in some semblance of order. With few exceptions the cabinet ladies have private secretaries, but these have to be paid for out of the private purse.—Kate Field's Washington.

Wasp Waits No Longer Admired.

Let discussions of the natural proportions of the female figure come before the public as practically as in recent comparison of the physical requirements for the proposed statue of Justice as compared with the requirements from a classical standpoint, the Venus de Milo being the model, and let dramatic critics of a high rank declare openly that the wasp waisted, tight bodiced women of every time in comparison with those governed far more gracefully in easy garments, and it will take long to let tend to the desired revolution in the matter of healthy, sensible dress for women.

When the fashion chit finds that her husband in waist is regarded by the other sex as a deformity and not a mark of beauty, she will cease cultivating the same, and when blind followers find that the sensible gown is, after all, the graceful, beautiful one, which high toned actresses wear most frequently, they will surely follow suit.

Mr. Modjeska and Mrs. Bernard-Bears are both good examples of the ease and grace possible in every attitude when unhampered by tight fitting garments. Modjeska long ago abandoned the corset, and great hindrance to perfect freedom of movement. Women have had a waist so long they have almost forgotten the fact which is nevertheless true, that naturally there is positively no waist line.

Artists declare there can be no beautiful attire till women believe this truth and force the modistes to recognize it by making gowns which from neck to foot shall be one and indivisible. A prominent Brooklyn artist who watched the last Sunday school procession declared it was actually painful to see so many deformed women and girls. Hitherto what the people have seen has seemed to affect matters little, but if a reform is started on the stage it will spread, as there are many women who today copy their styles from those of a new play.—Brooklyn Eagle.

An Invasion of Privacy.

A few years ago society in Washington was shocked by the use of a picture of Mrs. Cleveland as a cigar dealer's sign. Now society in Chicago has been shocked by the use of a portrait of Mrs. Potter Palmer in a brewery advertisement. Society in the east was aroused to indignation not long ago by the whole sale employment of portraits of modest young ladies to stimulate the business of cigarette manufacturers. In this case the offense was exceptionally flagrant, for the portraits were not faithfully reproduced from the originals, but were rendered more piquant by attaching the faces of proper young people in private life to the figures of stage people in the appropriate undress of the ballet. The courts were called upon to stop the outrage, and it was stopped.

All these invasions of the privacy of individuals are utterly indefensible, and bring the perpetrators under the censure of public opinion in all communities where public opinion has any pretensions to a capacity for making nice distinctions between right and wrong. There are those who maintain that it is a compliment to a lady's beauty to go to the expense of manufacturing her portrait and scattering it broadcast as the central embellishment of an artistic advertisement. But if the lady's feelings in a matter are stolidly ignored, there is certainly no compliment, but a coarse insult, which no man with the instincts of a gentleman could fail to resent.—Milwaukee Wisconsin.

English Women Adopt Knickerbockers.

Do you know that the reign of the petticoat is seriously threatened? Several women have urged that they should wear the "bloomer" costume, while others have mounted the platform ad-

ting the advantage of the divided skirt, and a very limited few have been brave enough to declare that what they really suggest is that we should wear trousers, pure, simple and hideous. In the adoption of knickerbockers as underclothing for walking on a muddy day there is a measure of reason, for comfort and cleanliness may be gained from wearing these underpant skirts instead of trailing petticoats. But even then I contend that the knickerbockers, just for our own gratification, should be made of some silken material, and it would be necessary for them, too, to be cut extremely full, else the outlines would be too clearly visible.

At the moment, however, there is only talk about adopting these. We have not yet done it in serious earnest, and courageous school will be the first young one of fashion who confides in her sister that she has taken the important step. For evening wear the knickerbockers, when they have taken them, are to be made, I hear, of accordion platted silk, and trimmed with lace reaching to the ankle and exactly resembling Turkish trousers. For the daytime they are to reach the knees, like a man's shooting breeches.—Hearth and Home.

Life Insurance For Women.

Since women in all grades of life have so generally taken upon themselves the responsibility of becoming breadwinners for themselves and any one who may be dependent upon them, another grievance under which they labor has been found to press heavily upon their shoulders, and an agitation has been begun to have it removed with as little delay as possible. Insurance companies are charged with grossly and flagrantly discriminating against her. Many of the most reliable of them will not take a risk upon her life upon any terms or conditions whatever. Risks will be taken on every conceivable thing in the universe—houses, stocks of merchandise, standing timber, growing grain, even on horses and dogs—but not on women.

For many of these faithful toilers life insurance is the only possible method of making provision for dependent ones when they themselves are no more, but even this way is, effectively barred to them by the inexorable rules of the companies not to take risks on the lives of women. A movement has been inaugurated to do away with this discrimination, and either to compel the present companies to amend their constitution and bylaws so that women may be admitted to the benefits of their enterprises, or to organize a solid company for the sole purpose of taking risks on the lives of women.—Philadelphia Times.

The Crinoline Specter.

I am told, on what should be good authority, that all this talk about the revival of the crinoline arises from a stray remark of M. Worth's. That great genius seems to have let some dictum implying that the new style of skirt would be "as it were crinoline." Forthwith certain persons of alarmist tendencies jumped to the conclusion that the hideous steel hoop would be reintroduced in its full atrociousness. Indeed it is actually stated that at one antiscrunching society has been formed. I have every reason to believe that the panic is entirely premature. All that the arbiter of fashion is intended to convey is that the skirts are to be full next year, both at the hips and round the bottom, and that horse hair will be used to keep the folds from becoming entirely flat. The fact is, the crinoline is female fashion, and M. Worth is its prophet. Still I doubt if, supposing him to possess the will, he has the power to reintroduce the crinoline in the British empire. The fact is that that monstrous caricature out of existence and beyond power of resurrection a generation ago.—London Cor. Manchester Courier.

The Dress of the Modern Woman.

Oh, the dress of woman! Oh, that vile distortion of the human form—the peacock straight jacket—which binds and wastes the limbs of her who should be lithe, agile, strong and supple! It is the greatest and most determined bar to her attainment of liberty. It makes her weak, feeble, dependent on others and "guy." Yes—yes—indeed—a "guy," for when one thinks of woman's form and looks at it in modern dress, comparison is ludicrous. Look at those pinched-in waists, elevated shoulders, high heeled shoes, trailing skirts sweeping up the dirt! And then the hats and bonnets! Oh, those hats and bonnets! Who can describe them? I cannot.

Men will ask, "Is this our fault?" Yes, it is. You have made women what they are, and you encourage them in their degradation. You know well enough that if you dressed and led the lives they did you would be just as effete, silly, mindless and helpless as they are, and yet you persist in openly admiring what you secretly ridicule and despise in your hearts.—Florence Dixie in London Modern Review.

Miss Field's Mistake.

Kate Field was lecturing some time ago in a western town. A half dozen small boys who had carried handbills from house to house had been rewarded by seats in the front row of the audience. But some way their youthful minds did not seem with absorbing interest in Miss Field's denunciation of Mormonism, and in half an hour they were swapping gum and kicking their heels in utter oblivion of "the distinguished speaker." The forthrightness was not true, however, and after directing many scorching glances at them in vain Miss Field arose in her wrath.

"Will the ladies kindly remove the boys from the room?" she demanded, and as the cowed youngsters were led out by the collar she launched into a scathing rebuke of the innocent audience. It is said that at the close of the lecture—when the proper time came for applause—you could have heard a pin drop in the stillness.—New York Recorder.

For Women in English Workhouses. The Duchess of Portland and the Countess of Methuen are bestirring themselves with the beneficent object of providing little comforts and amusements for the

poor old women in English workhouses. Already Lady Methuen's scheme for supplying material for needlework, knitting and other occupations for workhouse inmates has been carried out in several unions. The Duchess of Portland has now come forward to plead for gifts of newspapers, magazines and books for old female paupers, and, as an instance of the keen interest in what is going on outside the dismal walls of their abode taken by aged paupers, her grace cites a young lady in the neighborhood of Melton Mowbray who regularly visited the workhouse and told the old ladies about "the run," and if there was a good account of a fox hunt in the newspaper she read it to them.—London Letter.

To Represent American Newspaper Women. Mrs. Margaret Sullivan of Chicago has been asked to represent the press women of America in the great congress to meet during the World's fair. The selection has not met with great approval throughout the country, as Mrs. Sullivan is well adapted to speak for the womanly element in the press from her long experience in journalism. At the same meeting at which Mrs. Sullivan's name was proposed, 50 other prominent women were chosen to participate in the congress, some of whom are eminent in foreign countries. These congresses draw together a great number of distinguished women from all over the world and will be a most interesting feature of the fair.—Exchange.

The Fashionable Voice in London.

We must chronicle how the freak of fashion is now leveled at the voice. Formerly one of the characteristics of a lady was her voice; it was soft, low, well modulated; poets and novelists bestowed this charm upon their heroines. But now the fashionable voice of the day is high, shrill and strident; an exaggerated imitation of American intonation would best describe it. These voices come not from the outer ring of the circle, but from the charmed inner ring, the highest in rank being foremost in taking the lead in this respect.—London Cor. Toronto Empire.

A Dainty Breakfast Cape.

A duffy, puffy little breakfast cape for chilly mornings: Through snowy mounds of worsted is caught a ray of gleam of an interlining. It is nothing more than elegant tissue paper, but the effect is good. This dainty shoulder wrap is created from the drop stitch, this stitch producing a wavy effect that is charming. Lustrous ribbons, milky white, gather into place the extra fullness at the throat.—Exchange.

Not Easy to Prove.

When we seriously attempt to show that a woman who pays taxes ought to have a voice in the manner in which the taxes are expended, that a woman whose property and liberty and person are controlled by the laws she has no voice in framing those laws, it is not easy. If women are fit to rule in monarchies, it is difficult to say why they are not qualified to vote in a republic.—Hon. H. B. Anthony.

Protected Against Craps.

There has been a decided stand against wearing craps for some years past, but the Princess of Wales gave it the coup de grace by declining to wear it during her mourning for the late Duke of Clarence. Now there is a further protest against the heavy craps worn by widows, and doubtless before another year will come and gone the modification in this direction will be very perceptible.—Exchange.

Contents of a Child's Stomach.

A Hartford surgeon lately inquired of a woman whose 8-year-old child had long been suffering from peculiar attacks, to submit the little one to an operation, on suspicion that the baby had swallowed a diamond earring the mother had missed. No earring was found, but 38 small carpet tacks were taken from the child's stomach.—Exchange.

When Women Go Into Politics.

It is very cheap wit that finds it so dull that a woman should vote. If the wants, the passions, the voice, are allowed a full vote, through the hands of a half brutal, intemperate population, I think it but fair that the virtues, the aspirations, should be allowed a full voice as an offset through the purse of the people.—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Always Wear Black.

Miss Gadder—Oh, dear, I do hate winter! It's such hard work for me to select becoming gowns and bonnets. I do so envy Mrs. Mayfair.

"Why, my love?"

"Because she has such luck that scarcely three months pass that she does not lose a relative."—Tears Sittings.

The woman who says "I think you are mistaken" and goes no further when she sees the spirit of opposition rising in her hearer, is in the habit of a half-brotherly rebellion in the face of the world, who contends to the last, blighting those of contrary views and becoming herself worn out in the struggle.

The rage for traveling in Japan is spreading the delightful simplicity of the Japanese child woman. Already the quaint mild-eyed little woman appear at parties and fete clothed in most exaggerated copies of French modes in lard and flaming colors.

Mrs. Borden, president of the New Mexico W. C. T. U., has been honored to preach in the Congressional church. During last year she traveled 4,000 miles and made over 30 addresses in her temperance work.

Mrs. Campbell Hurd is medical director of the Bryn Mawr school, near Philadelphia. She is the daughter of a physician and has studied extensively abroad.

The women teachers in the high school, Oakland, Cal., have sent to the school board the following communication: "The salaries of the men who are heads of departments in this school are 90 per cent higher than those of the women holding the same rank. The work of the latter requires as much mental preparation as the work of the former, and in some cases very much more physical exertion and labor. Discrimination in salaries on account of sex is not in accordance with the spirit of the advanced institutions of learning of the present day, and it is unworthy of so progressive a school department as that of Oakland. Such discrimination is illegal, as being contrary to the letter and spirit of the action of the school law entitled 'An act to prevent discrimination against female teachers,' which reads as follows, 'Females employed as teachers in the public schools of this state shall receive the same compensation as is allowed to male teachers for like services holding the same grade certificates.'"

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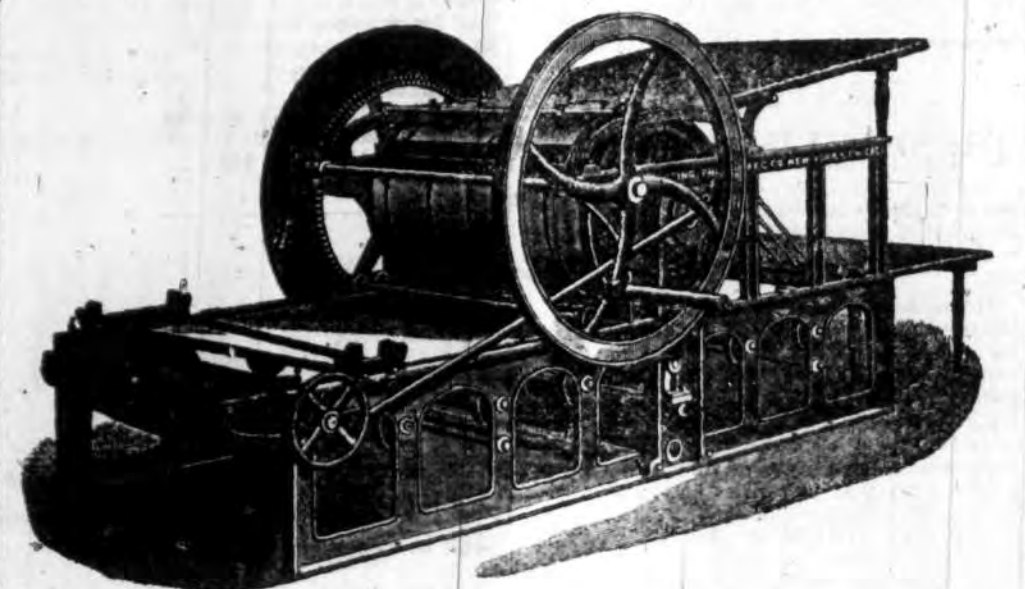
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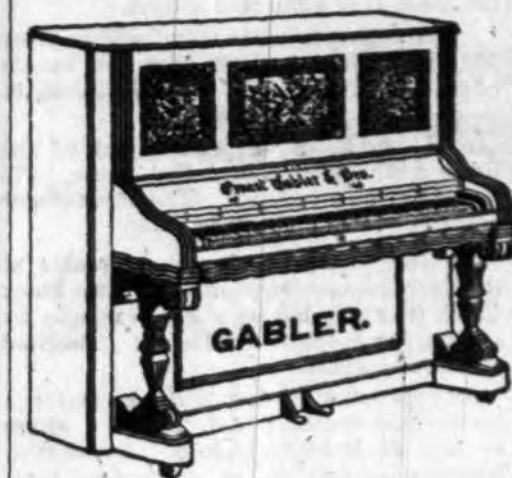
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VOL. XIII. NEW

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

The Water Supply Comes Under Discussion.

At the meeting of the Township Committee held on Monday noon the Road Committee requested of citizens for the opening of Mechanic Street, from Glen Avenue to Washington Street, the west side of the Del. and Western Railroad. It is that this street, though never was regularly laid by the city, the highways some years ago that its opening would, no great convenience to the public, that the matter of opening Mechanic Street be referred to Town Barrett for an opinion as to the rights of the public.

The Water Committee reported favor of renewing the contract water supply with the Orange Company for another term, years at the price of \$30 per year. The price for the years has been \$50.

The question of a water at then discussed in its various points brought out the discussion were quite generally side to a renewal of the contract was conceded that while the of the water was better than obtained elsewhere the inadequate through lack of It was maintained that the Water Company had not fulfilled conditions of the contract, respect, and could not pose in the future. They could the Glen Ridge section in a manner satisfactory to the public and the repeated lack of pressure sufficient purposes were referred to this might be remedied, having the water work Orange connected with field fire alarm system, notice of a fire might be the required pressure at still thought that if the of Bloomfield had been laid were not size to supply what was in the future.

It was stated that had laid 34 miles of township, and that the ready to sell the same. The plan of the township the pipes as laid, of larger size where piping water of the East Company was considered that the company offered to furnish water of \$100 per million, estimated by the Orange pay that Bloomfield 250,000-gallons daily.

No definite action the further extend water contract was next meeting.

The ordinance relating to the city's construction of the road, the ordinance ordered published.

The Fire Commission of procuring badges at \$60 per ordered done by The application to ship in the Fire L. Stevens was app of \$15 was approved salute on Washington.

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